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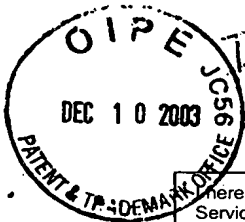
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Attorney Docket No.: 28967/34891A
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Alitalo et al.

Application No.: 09/765,534

Filed: January 19, 2001

Art Unit: 1644

For: Flt4 (VEGFR-3) as a Target for Tumor Imaging
and Anti-Tumor Therapy

Examiner: To be assigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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Dear Sir:

The Applicants request entry of the following preliminary amendment and prompt examination on the merits. The present application claims priority to 1992, and therefore, is **entitled to examination with special dispatch**. See M.P.E.P. 708.01 (I). Notwithstanding this policy, the application has been pending for **almost three years** without examination on the merits.

There are no amendments to the specification or drawings.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4.